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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/452,952	12/02/1999	PAUL J. FREDERICK	A-21599	1975
26694	7590	09/15/2005	EXAMINER	
VENABLE LLP P.O. BOX 34385 WASHINGTON, DC 20045-9998				WONG, ALLEN C
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2613		

DATE MAILED: 09/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/452,952	FREDERICK, PAUL J.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Allen Wong	2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3,4,6-9,11,12 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,3,4,6-9,11,12 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 14 have been read and considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The 35 U.S.C.112 rejection to claim 1 has been withdrawn since it has been clarified to remove the terms "or the like" to avoid ambiguity and indefiniteness.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson Jr. (6,578,203) in view of Matthews III (5,600,368).

Regarding claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11 and 12, Anderson Jr. discloses a method for distributing video images and audio signals of a race car competition from the perspective of an individual race participant (col.3, ln.7-15) to one or more individual viewers (fig.1, note multiple receivers 75 that are used by multiple viewers in a broadcasting environment) comprising the steps of:

providing each of a plurality of participants in said event with a video camera and a microphone positioned to provide sound and a view of the race from that participant's perspective (col.3, ln.7-15),

providing each of said cameras with a respective transmitter for transmitting information regarding video images and audio generated by the camera and microphone, respectively, which video image and audio reflect the participant's view of the race (fig.2, note plural video camera signals 22 are transmitted, so plural transmitters are used for the respective video camera signals, along with the associated audio signals 25 that correspond to each of the respective video signals),

providing retransmission equipment for receiving information transmitted by the transmitter and directing information regarding video images and audio, respectively, from each of the plurality of cameras and microphones to respective channels for remote viewing at a viewer's location (note in fig.2, camera signals are then multiplexed by element 67 and then form a combined signal 71 for transmission to multiple receivers where combined signal 71 is then decoded for viewing, as shown in fig.1, and that interface device can receive information from transmitters and directing to receivers for remote viewing, and that the corresponding audio signals 25 are included with the video signals),

providing channel selectors that permit viewers at their individual locations to select from among the channels a particular participant's view of the race (col.2, ln.22-25, ln.30-35 and col.6, ln.14-24),

simultaneously operating said cameras during the event so as to generate a plurality of camera and audio feeds during the event, each feed individually reflecting the perspective of the respective participant in real time (col.3, ln.7-15 and fig.1, note

respective camera signals 22 are generated from a plurality of camera feeds, where audio feeds 25 correspond to the respective camera signals 22),

transmitting the plurality of feeds to the retransmitting equipment (note in fig.2, camera signals are then multiplexed by element 67 and then form a combined signal 71 for transmission to multiple receivers where combined signal 71 is then decoded for viewing, as shown in fig.1, and that interface device can receive information from transmitters and directing to receivers for remote viewing), and

retransmitting the feeds to said channels, such that each of a plurality of viewers is able to select from a plurality of said channels the perspective of one or more individual participants or a group of participants (col.2, ln.22-25, ln.30-35 and col.6, ln.14-24, ln.49-55),

wherein the video images and audio are transmitted by way of a pay-per-view television system or Internet or other computer network and displayed as a single or a plurality of selected images based on viewer selection (col.6, ln.49-61; note use of the user paying a usage fee to view and listen to the user's desired perspective of the sporting event via the satellite television network or system).

Anderson Jr. does not specifically disclose the use of a split television or monitor screen to view image data. However, Matthews III teaches the use of a split television or monitor screen to view image data (fig.6, element 22 is a television monitor screen that shows the user's desired selected perspective of the sporting event with elements 100 and 102 to display other images). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to combine the teachings of Anderson Jr. and Matthews III, as a whole, for

advantageously the television viewer to conveniently see and hear from multiple perspectives of a sporting event in a convenient, expeditious, intuitive, reliable, simple manner (col.2, ln.3-5 and ln.29-39).

Regarding claim 14, Anderson Jr. discloses a system for distributing from the perspective of an individual participant in a racing event comprising a plurality of video cameras and microphones each mounted on an individual participant in a racing event (col.3, ln.7-15), a plurality of respective transmitters for transmitting information regarding video images from the plurality of cameras and audio signals from a plurality of microphones (fig.2, note plural video camera signals 22 are transmitted, so plural transmitters are used for the respective video camera signals, along with the associated audio signals 25 that correspond to each of the respective video signals), retransmission equipment for receiving information from said transmitters and directing information regarding the video images and audio signals to respective channels for remote viewing and listening at individual viewers' locations (note in fig.2, camera signals are then multiplexed by element 67 and then form a combined signal 71 for transmission to multiple receivers where combined signal 71 is then decoded for viewing, as shown in fig.1, and that interface device can receive information from transmitters and directing to receivers for remote viewing, and that the corresponding audio signals 25 are included with the video signals), and channel selectors that permit an individual viewer to select from among the channels (col.2, ln.22-25, ln.30-35 and col.6, ln.14-24, ln.49-55), thereby allowing the viewers to select and view video images and audio signals from at least one of said cameras and microphones and thereby

obtain an individual participant's view of the race (col.2, ln.22-25, ln.30-35 and col.6, ln.14-24, ln.49-61), wherein the video images are transmitted by way of a pay-per-view television system, Internet or other computer network and displayed as a single or a plurality of selected images, based on viewer selection of a single participant or participant group (col.6, ln.49-61; note use of the user paying a usage fee to view and listen to the user's desired perspective of the sporting event via the satellite television network or system).

Anderson Jr. does not specifically disclose the use of a split television or monitor screen to view image data. However, Matthews III teaches the use of a split television or monitor screen to view image data (fig.6, element 22 is a television monitor screen that shows the user's desired selected perspective of the sporting event with elements 100 and 102 to display other images). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art to combine the teachings of Anderson Jr. and Matthews III, as a whole, for advantageously the television viewer to conveniently see and hear from multiple perspectives of a sporting event in a convenient, expeditious, intuitive, reliable, simple manner (col.2, ln.3-5 and ln.29-39).

Conclusion

2. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen Wong whose telephone number is (571) 272-7341. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays to Thursdays from 8am-6pm Flextime.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on (571) 272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Allen Wong
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

AW
9/13/05